

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1) *17 AUG 05*
- FINAL DATE *17 JAN 06* ?

Applicant's or agent's file reference
54868PCT GEH:PFB

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **10 NOV 2004**

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/001414

International filing date (day/month/year)
15 October 2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
17 October 2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Int. Cl. ⁷ **B60B 21/06, 1/04**

Applicant

CASTALLOY MANUFACTURING PTY LTD et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001414

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001414

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-8	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-8	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-8	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered for the purposes of this opinion:

(i) FR 976246	(v) EP 26514
(ii) US 1340773	(vi) US 4448456
(iii) US 6019149	(vii) US 5651589
(iv) US 4824177	

Novelty (N) Claims 1-8

None of the cited documents disclose all of the features of each of the independent claims. Therefore all of the claims are novel.

Inventive Step (IS) Claims 1-8

Claims 1, 7, 8: Citations (i) and (ii) do not individually disclose all of the features defined in each of these independent claims. However, when either of these documents is combined with either one of citations (iii) or (iv), as would be obvious to a relevant person skilled in the art, they disclose all of the features of each of the claims.

Claims 2, 3: The minor features added by each of these claims are explicitly disclosed in one or more of citations (i)-(iv).

Claims 4-6: The features added by each of these claims merely amount to common general knowledge in the art of vehicle wheels. Hence, each of these claims does not involve an inventive step.